PHILIP R. SELLINGER United States Attorney THANDIWE BOYLAN Assistant United States Attorney 970 Broad Street, Suite 700 Newark, New Jersey 07102

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D. EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., JENNY JEAN, M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER, AFAMEFUNE U. ONEJEME, M.D., NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC., JOHN DOES 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10 (representing presently unknown health care providers or health care providers with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected including but not limited to doctors, residents, nurses, technicians and others); and ABC CORPS. 1-10 (representing presently unknown facilities or entities or facilities or entities with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected),

Defendants.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

CIVIL ACTION NO.

TO: Clerk Essex County Superior Court 50 West Market Street Newark, New Jersey 07102

> William O. Crutchlow, Esq. EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW 40 Ethel Road Edison, New Jersey 08817

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this case, previously pending in the New Jersey Superior Court, Essex County, Docket No. ESX-L-2798-21, is now removed to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 233(c). The United States of America is substituted for the removing Defendants Afamefune U. Onejeme, M.D. and Newark Community Health Centers, Inc. (collectively, the "Removing Defendants") under 42 U.S.C. § 233(c) and (g), with respect to all of the claims set forth against them in the First Amended Complaint. The United States of America, by and through its undersigned attorneys, respectfully states the following in support of the removal of this matter:

- 1. On December 21, 2021, Plaintiff initiated this action in New Jersey Superior Court, Essex County. See Exhibit A (State Court Docket). Plaintiff has not effected service of process upon the United States of America in the manner specified in and required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(i).
- 2. In the State Court Action, Plaintiff seeks damages from the Removing Defendants for personal injuries allegedly sustained as the direct and proximate result of the Removing Defendants' alleged negligence, *i.e.*, medical malpractice. *See*Exhibit B (State Court First Amended Complaint).

- 3. The United States Department of Health and Human Services determined that the Removing Defendants were covered by the Federal Tort Claims Act ("FTCA") since January 1, 2019, for purposes of this action. See Exhibit C (Declaration of Erica Gibson dated March 22, 2022, with exhibit). At all times relevant to the First Amended Complaint, the Removing Defendants have been deemed as Public Health Service employees under 42 U.S.C. § 233(g). See Exhibit C, ¶¶ 5-6.
- 4. Sections 233(a) and (g) of Title 42 of the United States Code, as amended by the Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-73) provides that the FTCA is the exclusive remedy for tort claims against the United States.
- 5. This action is deemed to be an action against the United States under 42 U.S.C. § 233(c), because the Removing Defendants were acting within the scope of employment as employees of the United States at the time of the conduct alleged in the Complaint. See Exhibit D (Certification of Scope of Employment).
- 6. The United States District Courts have exclusive jurisdiction over tort actions filed against the United States under the FTCA. 28 U.S.C. § 1346(b).
- 7. Removal of this action to the federal district court is timely because under section 233(c), the action can be removed from state court to the federal district court any time before trial. *See, e.g., Estrella v. Yahav*, No. 15-CV-4286, 2016 WL 1230555, at *4 (D.N.J. Mar. 29, 2016). Upon information and belief, a trial has not been scheduled in the State Action.

8. This Notice of Removal will be filed with the Clerk of the New Jersey

Superior Court, Law Division, Essex County, and will be served on all parties in

accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d). See Exhibit E (Letter to Clerk of New Jersey

Superior Court).

9. The United States of America is substituted as a defendant in place of

the Removing Defendants. See 42 U.S.C. § 233(c) and (g).

Dated: Newark, New Jersey March 29, 2022

PHILIP R. SELLINGER

United States Attorney

By: <u>s/Thandiwe Boylan</u>

THANDIWE BOYLAN

Assistant United States Attorney

EXHIBIT A

Case Summary

Case Number: ESX L-002798-21

Case Caption: Richardson Amanda Vs Luthra M.D. Ankita

Case Initiation Date: 04/07/2021 Court: Civil Part Venue: Essex

Case Status: Active Jury Demand: 6 Jurors Case Type: Medical Malpractice

Case Track: 3

of DED Extensions: 0 Original Discovery End Date: 09/14/2022 **Original Arbitration Date:** # of Arb Adjournments: 0

Original Trial Date: Current Trial Date: # of Trial Date Adjournments: 0

Disposition Date: Statewide Lien: Case Disposition: Open

Plaintiffs

Mossimmbo Roberts

Party Description: Individual

Address Line 1: 81 Carnegie Avenue

State: NJ

Attorney Email: WCRUTCHLOW@NJADVOCATES.COM

Amanda Richardson

City: East Orange

Party Description: Individual

Address Line 1: 81 Carnegie Avenue

City: East Orange

State: NJ

State: NJ

State: NJ

State: NJ

Attorney Email: WCRUTCHLOW@NJADVOCATES.COM

Defendants

Ankita Luthra M.D.

Party Description: Individual

Address Line 1: 201 Lyons Avenue

City: Newark

Attorney Email: LSTROLLO@VASIOSLAW.COM

Jane Does 1-10

Party Description: Fictitious

Address Line 1:

City:

Attorney Email:

Kenneth Treadwell M.D.

Party Description: Individual

Address Line 1: 201 Lyons Avenue

City: Newark State: NJ

Attorney Email: LSTROLLO@VASIOSLAW.COM

Jenny Jean M.D.

City: Newark

Party Description: Individual

Address Line 1: 201 Lyons Avenue

Attorney Email: LSTROLLO@VASIOSLAW.COM

Edsel Antonio D.O.

Party Description: Individual

Address Line 1: 201 Lyons Avenue

City: Newark State: NJ Judge: Keith E Lynott Team: 2

Current Discovery End Date: 09/14/2022

Address Line 2:

Zip: 07112

Zip: 00000

Zip: 07112

Zip: 07112

Zip: 07018

Zip: 07018

Current Arbitration Date:

Attorney Name: William O Crutchlow

Attorney Bar ID: 017391993

Phone: (732) 777-0100

Attorney Name: William O Crutchlow

Attorney Bar ID: 017391993

Phone: (732) 777-0100

Attorney Name: Lauren Mary Strollo

Attorney Bar ID: 018361986

Phone: (973) 926-7000

Attorney Name:

Attorney Bar ID:

Phone:

Attorney Name: Lauren Mary Strollo

Attorney Bar ID: 018361986

Phone: (973) 926-7000

Attorney Name: Lauren Mary Strollo

Attorney Bar ID: 018361986

Phone: (973) 926-7000

Attorney Name: Lauren Mary Strollo Attorney Bar ID: 018361986

Phone: (973) 926-7000

Zip: 07112

Case 2:22-cv-01755 Document 1 Filed 03/29/22 Page 7 of 38 PageID: 7

Attorney Email: LSTROLLO@VASIOSLAW.COM

Pouya Javadian M.D.

Party Description: Individual Attorney Name: Lauren Mary Strollo

Address Line 2: Address Line 1: 201 Lyons Avenue Attorney Bar ID: 018361986

Zip: 07112 Phone: (973) 926-7000 City: Newark State: NJ

Attorney Email: LSTROLLO@VASIOSLAW.COM

John Does 1-10

Attorney Name: Party Description: Fictitious

Address Line 2: Address Line 1: Attorney Bar ID:

Phone: City: **Zip:** 00000 State: NJ

Attorney Email:

Newark Beth Israel Medical Cen AKA Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Party Description: Hospital Attorney Name: Lauren Mary Strollo

Address Line 2: Address Line 1: 201 Lyons Avenue Attorney Bar ID: 018361986

Zip: 07112 Phone: (973) 926-7000 City: Newark State: NJ

Attorney Email: LSTROLLO@VASIOSLAW.COM

Newark Community Health Center

Attorney Name: Party Description: Corp

Address Line 1: Address Line 2: Attorney Bar ID:

Zip: 00000 Phone: City: State:

Attorney Email:

Abc Corps 1-10

Attorney Name: Party Description: Fictitious

Address Line 1: Address Line 2: Attorney Bar ID:

City: **Zip:** 00000 Phone: State: NJ

Attorney Email:

Afamefune U Onejeme Md

Party Description: Individual **Attorney Name:**

Address Line 2: Attorney Bar ID: Address Line 1:

Phone: **Zip:** 00000 State: City:

Attorney Email:

Case Proceeding							
Created Date	Scheduled Time	Court Room	Judge Name	Proceeding Description	Motion Type	Proceeding Status	Motion Statu
00/40/0004	44.00	REMO	KEITH ELVAIOTT	FERREIRA		OANOEL	

tus

09/13/2021	11:00	T	KEITH E LYNOTT	CONFERENCE		CANCEL	
12/03/2021	09:00	REMO T	SHARIFA R SALAAM	MOTION HEARING	MOTION TO FILE OR AMEND COMPLAINT	COMPLETED	СМ

Case Actions

Filed Date	Docket Text	Transaction ID	Entry Date
09/09/2021	FERREIRA CONFERENCE WAIVED submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL M.D., JENNY JEAN M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O., POUYA JAVADIAN M.D. ET AL.	LCV20212085061	09/09/2021
09/10/2021	STIPULATION OF DISMISSAL submitted by STROLLO, LAUREN, MARY of VASIOS KELLY & STROLLO PA on behalf of ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., JANE DOES 1-10, KENNETH TREADWELL M.D., JENNY JEAN M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O. ET AL. against MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS, AMANDA RICHARDSON	LCV20212101256	09/10/2021
09/10/2021	CLERK NOTICE: re: FERREIRA CONFERENCE WAIVED [LCV20212085061] -The Ferrerria Conference is adjourned for Monday 9/13/21.	LCV20212103608	09/10/2021
09/13/2021	Consent Order - GRANTED by Judge LYNOTT, KEITH, E	LCV20212118148	09/13/2021
04/07/2021	Complaint with Jury Demand for ESX-L-002798-21 submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM O, EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON, MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS against ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O., JENNY JEAN M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL M.D. ET AL.	LCV2021905081	04/07/2021
04/08/2021	TRACK ASSIGNMENT Notice submitted by Case Management	LCV2021913574	04/08/2021

04/12/2021	AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL M.D., JENNY JEAN M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER	LCV2021936228	04/12/2021
05/11/2021	AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against EDSEL ANTONIO D.O.	LCV20211174523	05/11/2021
06/08/2021	AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against POUYA JAVADIAN M.D.	LCV20211385383	06/08/2021
06/21/2021	Answer W/Jury Demand submitted by STROLLO, LAUREN, MARY of VASIOS KELLY & STROLLO PA on behalf of ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL M.D., JENNY JEAN M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O., POUYA JAVADIAN M.D. ET AL. against MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS, AMANDA RICHARDSON	LCV20211476429	06/21/2021
07/23/2021	COURT Notice submitted by Case Management	LCV20211726046	07/23/2021
10/16/2021	LACK OF PROSECUTION DISMISSAL WARNING Notice submitted by Case Management	LCV20212409932	10/16/2021
10/18/2021	GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against EDSEL ANTONIO D.O.	LCV20212414464	10/18/2021
10/18/2021	CLERK NOTICE: re: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE [LCV20212414464] -Other: Dismissal as to deft Antonio in error. Answer filed 6/21/21 is yet to be processed. Once this is done it will take care of the dismissal notice. Thank you.	LCV20212416395	10/18/2021
11/04/2021	MOTION TO FILE OR AMEND COMPLAINT submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL M.D., JENNY JEAN M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O., POUYA JAVADIAN M.D. ET AL.	LCV20212580525	11/04/2021
11/05/2021	The motion filed on 11/04/2021 will be decided on 12/03/2021. Do not come to the courthouse because no oral argument has been requested. The court's decision will be provided to you. Re: MOTION TO FILE OR AMEND COMPLAINT [LCV20212580525]	LCV20212585714	11/05/2021
12/08/2021	ORDER TO FILE OR AMEND COMPLAINT-Granted by Judge SALAAM, SHARIFA, R re: MOTION TO FILE OR AMEND COMPLAINT [LCV20212580525]	LCV20212871016	12/08/2021
12/21/2021	AMENDED COMPLAINT submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS, AMANDA RICHARDSON against ANKITA LUTHRA M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL M.D., JENNY JEAN M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER	LCV20213069308	12/21/2021
12/30/2021	AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, AFAMEFUNE U ONEJEME MD	LCV20213150020	12/30/2021
01/31/2022	REQUEST FOR DEFAULT submitted by CRUTCHLOW, WILLIAM, O of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP on behalf of AMANDA RICHARDSON against NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, AFAMEFUNE U ONEJEME MD	LCV2022410862	01/31/2022
01/31/2022	DEFICIENCY NOTICE: re: REQUEST FOR DEFAULT [LCV2022410862] -Other. the default request is premature. the 35 days to answer has not expired as yet.	LCV2022410940	01/31/2022
	·		

EXHIBIT B

RECEIVED

William O. Crutchlow, Esq. Attorney IDN: 017391993 EICHEN, CRUTCHLOW, ZASLOW, LLP 40 Ethel Road Edison, NJ 08817 1-732-777-0100

DEC 27 2021

AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS,

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Plaintiffs,

Defendants.

-VS-

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., JENNY JEAN, M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER., AFAMEFUNE U. ONEJEME, M.D., NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC., JOHN DOES 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10 (representing presently unknown health care providers or health care providers with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected including but not limited to doctors, residents, nurses, technicians and others); and ABC CORPS, 1-10 (representing presently unknown facilities or entities or facilities or entities with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected),

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY DOCKET NO: ESX-L-2798-21

CIVIL ACTION

SUMMONS

To the Defendant(s) named above:

Newark Community Health Centers, Inc.

444 William Street

East Orange NJ 07017-2213

The Plaintiff, named above, has filed a lawsuit against you in the Superior Court of New Jersey. The Complaint attached to this Summons states the basis for this lawsuit. If you dispute this Complaint, you or your attorney must file a written answer or motion and proof of service with the deputy clerk of the Superior Court in the county listed above within 35 days from the date

you received this summons, not counting the date you received it. If the Complaint is one in

foreclosure, then you must file your written answer or motion and proof of service with the Clerk

of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, NJ 08625. A filing fee* payable

to the Clerk of the Superior Court and a completed Case Information Statement (available from

the deputy clerk of the Superior Court) must accompany your answer or motion when it is filed.

You must also send a copy of your answer or motion to plaintiff's attorney whose name and

address appear above, or to Plaintiff, if no attorney is named above. A telephone call will not

protect your rights; you must file and serve a written answer or motion (with fee and completed

Case Information Statement) if you want the court to hear your defense.

If you do not file and serve a written answer or motion within 35 days, the Court may enter

a judgment against you for the relief Plaintiff demands, plus interest and costs of suit. If judgment

is entered against you, the Sheriff may seize your money, wages or property to pay all or part of

the judgment.

If you cannot afford an attorney, you may call the Legal Services office in the county where

you live. If you do not have an attorney and are not eligible for free legal assistance, you may

obtain a referral to an attorney by calling one of the Lawyer Referral Services. These numbers

may be listed in the yellow pages of your phone book or may be obtained by calling the New

Jersey State Bar Association Referral Service.

/s/ Michelle Smith Michelle M. Smith, Clerk

Dated: December 21, 2021

Name of Defendant to be served:

Newark Community Health Centers

444 William Street

East Orange NJ 07017-2213

*\$175.00 for Law Division Cases

3

William O. Crutchlow, Esq. Attorney IDN: 017391993 EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP 40 Ethel Road Edison, New Jersey 08817 1-732-777-0100 Attorneys for Plaintiff

AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS,

Plaintiffs.

-VS-

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., JENNY JEAN, M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER.. AFAMEFUNE U. ONEJEME, M.D., NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC., JOHN DOES 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10 (representing presently unknown health care providers or health care providers with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected including but not limited to doctors, residents, nurses, technicians and others); and ABC CORPS. 1-10 (representing presently unknown facilities or entities or facilities or entities with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected),

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY DOCKET NO: ESX-L-2798-21

CIVIL ACTION

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

Defendants.

The Plaintiffs, AMANDA RICHARDSON, and MOSSIMBO ROBERTS of East Orange,

County of Essex, State of New Jersey, by way of Complaint against the defendants, say:

PARTIES

- 1. Defendant ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D. was at all times relevant hereto a licensed physician in the State of New Jersey. She has at all times relevant hereto held herself out as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- 2. Defendant POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D. was at all times relevant hereto a licensed physician in the State of New Jersey. He has at all times relevant hereto held himself out as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- 3. Defendant EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O. was at all times relevant hereto a licensed physician in the State of New Jersey. He has at all times relevant hereto held himself out as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- 4. Defendant JENNY JEAN, M.D. was at all times relevant hereto a licensed physician in the State of New Jersey. She has at all times relevant hereto held herself out as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- 5. Defendant KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D. was at all times relevant hereto a licensed physician in the State of New Jersey. He has at all times relevant hereto held himself out as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- 6. The Defendant NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER was at all times relevant hereto a licensed hospital authorized to operate in the State of New Jersey. Upon information and belief, this entity was the employer of defendants ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., JENNY JEAN, M.D., and/or KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D and/or said individually named defendants were agents (apparent or actual) and/or representatives of this entity during all times relevant hereto.

- 7. Defendant AFAMEFUNE U. ONEJEME, M.D. was at all times relevant hereto a licensed physician in the State of New Jersey. He has at all times relevant hereto held himself out as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- 8. The Defendant NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC., was at all times relevant hereto, upon information and belief, a Federally Qualified Health Center authorized to operate in the State of New Jersey. Upon information and belief, this entity is the employer of Defendant AFAMEFUNE U. ONEJEME, M.D., and/or said this Defendant was an agent (apparent or actual) and/or representative of this entity during all times relevant hereto.
- 9. JOHN DOES 1-10, JANE DOES 1-10 and ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10, are fictitious, presently unidentified persons or entities or are persons or entities with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected including, physicians, maternal-fetal medicine specialists, obstetricians, gynecologists, assisting surgeons, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, advanced practice nurses, employees, agents (actual or apparent) or representatives of the defendants, corporate officers, agents, directors, consultants, corporations or other business entities, healthcare facilities, doctors, residents, fellows, nurses or technicians, and other healthcare providers who were jointly or severally involved in aided, assisted or directed the activities, actions or failures to act that are set forth herein.

COUNT ONE PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

- 10. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege the content of each paragraph in the Parties section of this Complaint as if set forth herein at length.
- 11. Each of the Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care and was negligent in the management of their patient, AMANDA RICHARDSON, and her unborn child during the pregnancy that ended with a fetal demise discovered on or about April 30, 2019. Each deviated

from accepted standards of medical care and was negligent in this regard.

12. As a direct and proximate consequence of the Defendants' negligence and deviations from accepted standards of medical care, the Plaintiffs, AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMBO ROBERTS were cause to suffer severe and permanent injuries; they have been caused to endure pain and suffering, including severe emotional distress, and will continue to endure pain and suffering, including severe emotional distress, in the future; they have been caused to incur medical expenses and will continue to incur medical expenses in the future; they have been forced to incur additional economic and other damages.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs demand judgment against the defendants, jointly, severally, and in the alternative:

- a) Awarding compensatory damages for the personal injuries to the Plaintiffs;
- b) Awarding pre-judgment and post-judgment interest to the Plaintiffs;
- c) Awarding the costs and expenses of this litigation to the Plaintiffs;
- d) Awarding reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to the Plaintiffs as provided by law; and
- e) Granting such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Plaintiffs, pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 4:35-1, demand a trial by jury as to all issues.

DEMAND FOR DISCOVERY OF INSURANCE COVERAGE

Pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 4:10-2(b), demand is hereby made that defendants disclose to plaintiff's attorneys whether there are any insurance agreements or policies under which any person or firm

carrying on an insurance business may be liable to satisfy part or all of a judgment and provide plaintiff's attorneys with true copies of such insurance agreements or policies including, but not limited to, any and all declaration sheets. This demand shall be deemed to include and cover not only primary coverage but also any and all excess, catastrophe and umbrella policies.

DEMAND FOR PRODUCTION OF ALL MEDICAL RECORDS/SPECIMENS

Pursuant to Rule 4:18-1, demand is hereby made that each of the defendants produce to plaintiff's attorneys the entire and complete medical records (including and all phone message or related documents) and all pathology specimens (including placental pathology specimens) relating to any medical care provided by any defendant to any plaintiff at any time, handwritten notes, office and hospital records, test results, diagnostic tests, actual X-rays, CAT scans, MRI films, EKG strips, etc. This demand shall further include all documents sent by or at the request of defendant to any insurance carrier or third party for payment of any bills incurred for providing medical care to plaintiff. All documents and other materials are to be produced to the office of plaintiff's attorneys within 45 days.

DEMAND FOR INSPECTION OF ORIGINAL RECORDS

Pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 4:18-1, demand is hereby made that the defendant make available all original records described in the preceding demand for inspection within 45 days.

DEMAND FOR ANSWERS TO INTERROAGTORIES

The Plaintiffs hereby demand that each Defendant provide certified answers to Uniform Form C and C(3) Interrogatories within sixty (60) days of service of the respective Answer of each defendant, per New Jersey Court Rule 4:17.

NOTICE TO PRODUCE

Pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 4:18-1, the Plaintiffs hereby demand that each of the Defendants produce the following documentation within thirty (30) days as prescribed by the Rules of Court. Additionally, please be advised that the following requests are ongoing and continuing in nature and the defendant is therefore required to continuously update its responses thereto as new information or documentation comes into existence.

- 1. A complete copy of any and all medical records, notes (whether part of the chart of the patient or not), pharmacy records (including those maintained separate and apart from the patient's chart), pathology specimens and records, radiology records (including those maintained separate and apart from the patient's chart), laboratory records (including those maintained separate and apart from the patient's chart), billing information, appointment book pages, computer entries, prescription forms, telephone messages and the like maintained by the defendant which in any way relate to the plaintiff.
- 2. Any document sufficient to detail the name and address of any answering or like service utilized by the defendant during the time that the plaintiff was a patient of the defendant.
- 3. Any document sufficient to provide the name and address of any transcription service utilized by the defendant during the time that the plaintiff was a patient of the defendant.
- 4. Any and all documents of any type, including but not limited to Orders, Judgments, final decisions and the like, received from the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners, or any other licensing body, or from any hospital or other entity where the defendant was on staff or sought staff privileges regarding any investigation, disciplinary proceeding and/or action taken by such a body which in any way relate to the defendant's medical license, his license to prescribe any medications or hospital privileges.
- 5. Any and all documents which in any way relate to any internal hospital or other evaluation or investigation of the medical care provided to the plaintiff.
- 6. Any and all incident reports of any type which in any way relate to the plaintiff.
- 7. A complete transcription of all handwritten notes in the record of this defendant.
- 8. A complete list of all persons whose name or signature appears in the medical record of this defendant, with specific reference to where each name appears and the title of each person.
- 9. The reports of any and all experts, oral or written, whether they will testify at trial or not, who have reviewed any aspect of this case at the request of defense counsel, the defendant, the defendant's insurance carrier or any other agent or representative of the defendant.

- 10. A complete copy of the CV of the defendant and copies of all publications referenced therein.
- 11. A complete copy of the CV of any defense expert and copies of any publications referenced therein (to be supplied prior to the deposition of the defense expert or an application to bar the testimony of said expert will be made).
- 12. A complete copy of any and all correspondence of any type as well as a list of any documents provided from/to or exchanged between defense counsel, the defendant, the defendant's insurance carrier and any defense expert (to be supplied prior to the deposition of any defense expert or an application to bar the testimony of said expert will be made).
- 13. Copies of all photographs, video and/or audio recordings or other recordings of any type which are in the possession or control of any defendant, defense attorney or agent/representative thereof which in any way relate to the plaintiff, whether same will be produced at trial or not. This request specifically relates to surveillance video, photos or recordings of any kind.
- 14. Complete copies or reproductions of any demonstrative evidence of any type that the defense will attempt to use at trial.
- 15. Complete copies of any and all diagnostic films (x-rays, Ct scans, MRI films, ultrasounds etc.) in the possession or control of the defendant or any representative of the defense which in any way relate to the plaintiff.
- 16. Complete copies of all records of any type (medical, hospital, employment or otherwise) that are obtained by the defense which in any way relate to the defendant, whether same will be used at trial or not.
- 17. Complete copies of any document of any type drafted by or signed by the plaintiff or any representative of the plaintiff.
- 18. Complete copies of any document of any type sent to or provided to the defendant by or on behalf of the plaintiff or by or on behalf of the defendant to the plaintiff, whether relating to medical diagnosis or treatment or not, at any time.
- 19. Copies of each and every pleading, including, but not limited to, the complaint, answers, interrogatories, notices to produce, answers to interrogatories and notices to produce, motions, deposition notices, deposition transcripts, requests for admissions and responses thereto, settlement documents, releases, judgments, stipulations, covenants not to sue, warrants to satisfy judgments and the like which in any way relate to this action or to any plaintiff herein.

- 20. Any document prepared by or signed by the defendant or any other defendant to this case.
- 21. Complete copies of any phone bills regarding any phone and fax numbers maintained by the defendant or his office with regard to the date of any phone call or fax that the defendant claims was made which in any way related to the plaintiff, whether said call or fax is documented in the record or not.
- 22. Complete copies of any "on call schedules" relating to coverage provided for this defendant by any other doctor or by this defendant for any other doctor which in any way relate to the plaintiffs medical care.
- 23. Complete copies of any and all factual summaries of any type prepared by the defendant or on his behalf which contain any information relevant hereto.
- 24. Complete duplications of any and all diagrams, impressions, blow-ups, casts or models made for or on behalf of the defendant or his counsel.
- 25. Complete copies or duplications of any records, documents, items, recordings, duplications or the like not previously requested herein which are in any way relevant hereto.
- 26. Complete copies of the contract maintained between the defendant and any entity providing medical insurance or health coverage of any type for the plaintiff in place during the time that the defendant treated the plaintiff.
- 27. Complete copies of any documents exchanged between the defendant and the health care insurance entity or entities detailed in the prior request that in any way relate to the plaintiff.
- 28. Complete copies of any statements in any form taken from any person not a party to this action at any time which relate in any way to this case.
- 29. Complete copies of any documents or things which the defense intends to use or introduce into evidence at the time of trial.
- 30. Complete copies of the specific portions of any and all medical treatise, text, journal or other publication of any type upon which the defense experts relied in crafting their opinions, with regard to which any defense expert or the defendant will rely at trial, upon which defense counsel will rely at trial (whether in the direct defense case or on cross-examination of plaintiff witnesses) or which the defense will attempt to offer into evidence.
- 31. A complete list, including names and docket numbers of the cases, the name and address of counsel who retained them, whether they acted on behalf of the plaintiff or defense and a brief summary of each case with regard to all matters within which any defense witness, including the defendant, has acted as an expert over the past five years.

- 32. Complete copies of any sworn testimony from any source, including in other cases or matters, provided by any witness, including expert witnesses, identified as a potential witness at the time of trial in this case on behalf of any party, that any defendant or defense counsel is in possession of or has access to and which <u>may</u> be utilized at the time of trial of this case in any capacity.
- 33. Complete duplicates, not photocopies, of any images of any kind, including, but not limited to, radiology images contained within the medical record of any defendant, including the defendant hospital.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that attorney, WILLIAM O. CRUTCHLOW is hereby designated as trial counsel in the above-captioned litigation for the firm of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP pursuant to R. 4:25-4.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Control of the contro

WILLIAM O. CRUTCHLOW, ESQ.

Dated: December 20, 2021

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO R. 4:5-1

- I, WILLIAM O. CRUTCHLOW, of full age, do hereby certify:
- 1. I am an attorney at law of the State of New Jersey, and am a partner in the law firm of EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP attorneys for the Plaintiff in the above-captioned matter.
- 2. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief there is no other action pending about the subject matter of this Complaint in any Court or arbitration proceeding.
- 3. I am unaware of any other persons or entities who should be made parties to this case or who may be properly subject to joinder.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

WILLIAM O. CRUTCHLOW, ESQ.

Dated: December 20, 2021

WILLIAM O. CRUTCHLOW ESQ.-ATTORNEY IDN: 017391993 EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP

Attorneys-At-Law 40 Ethel Road Edison, NJ 08817 1-732-777-0100 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS,

Plaintiffs,

-V5-

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., JENNY JEAN, M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., AFAMEFUNE ONEJEME, M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER., JOHN DOES 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10 (representing presently unknown health care providers, including but not limited to doctors, residents, nurses, technicians and others); and ABC CORPS. 1-10 (representing presently unknown facilities or entities),

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY DOCKET NO: ESX-L-

CIVIL ACTION

AFFIDAVIT OF MERIT OF MARTIN GUBERNICK, M.D.

MARTIN GUBERNICK, M.D., under oath, does hereby swear and affirm as follows:

- 1. My name is MARTIN GUBERNICK, M.D. I am a Physician licensed in the State of New York. I am Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology. I actively practice in this field and I have practiced in this field for more than five years.
 - 2. I have no financial interest in the outcome of the case under review.
- 3. I have reviewed the medical records regarding this case and I believe with reasonable medical probability that ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., JENNY JEAN, M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., AFAMEFUNE ONEJEME, M.D., and NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER, were negligent and practiced below accepted standards of medical care with regard to their patient AMANDA RICHARDSON and her unborn child resulting in fetal demise on or about April 29, 2019.

- 4. I recognize that my opinions are based on the information currently available. Should additional information become available, I reserve the right to amend my opinions accordingly.
- 5. I hereby swear and attest that the above statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the above is willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

MARTIN GUBERNICK, M.D.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this 3th day of Con 1.

2021.

naman Bus

NOTARY PUBLIC

CLAUDE BRYANT
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01BR6160314
Qualified in Kings County
My Commission Expires 03-28-2023

NOTICE:

If any defendant has any objection to the sufficiency of this Affidavit of Merit; demand is hereby made that the defendant immediately notify the plaintiff of any such alleged deficiencies so that same may be corrected if necessary and within the time constraint of *N.J.S.A.* 2A:53A-26 et seq.

FILED

3:46 pm, Dec 08, 2021

William O. Crutchlow, Esq. Attorney IDN: 017391993 G. Warren Baldwin, Esq. Attorney IDN: 150732015 EICHEN CRUTCHLOW ZASLOW, LLP 40 Ethel Road Edison, New Jersey 08817 1-732-777-0100 Attorneys for Plaintiff

AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS.

Plaintiffs,

-VS-

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., **POUYA** JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO, D.O., **JENNY** JEAN, M.D., KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER., JOHN DOES 1-10 and JANE DOES 1-10 (representing presently unknown health care providers or health care providers with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected including but not limited to doctors, residents, nurses, technicians and others); and ABC CORPS. 1-10 (representing presently unknown facilities or entities or facilities or entities with regard to which negligence is not presently suspected),

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY DOCKET NO: ESX-L-2798-21

CIVIL ACTION

ORDER

This matter having been brought before the Court on Motion of Eichen Crutchlow Zaslow, LLP, Attorneys for the Plaintiff, for an Order permitting the Plaintiff to file an Amended Complaint; and the Court having considered the matter and good cause appearing;

IT IS on this 7th day of December, 2021;

ORDERED that the Plaintiff be and hereby is authorized to file a First Amended Complaint naming Afamefune U. Onejeme, M.D. and Newark Community Health Centers, Inc. as direct Defendants; and, as it is further,

ORDERED that plaintiff's proposed amended complaint attached as Exhibit A may be treated as filed as of the date of this order; ORDERED, that service of this Order shall be deemed effectuated upon all parties upon it being uploaded to E-Courts. Pursuant to R. 1:5-1(a), Movants shall serve a copy of this Order on all parties not served electronically within seven (7) days of the date of this Order.

ANDE	
Hon. Sharifa R. Salaam, J.S.C.	J.S.C.

2001

_____Opposed

X Unopposed

EXHIBIT C

PHILIP R. SELLINGER United States Attorney THANDIWE BOYLAN Assistant United States Attorney 970 Broad Street, Suite 700 Newark, New Jersey 07102

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

AMANDA RICHARDSON and MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D., POUYA JAVADIAN, M.D., EDSEL ANTONIO D.O. JENNY JEAN, M.D. KENNETH TREADWELL, M.D., NEWARK BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER, AFAMEFUNE U. ONEJEME, M.D. NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC., et al.,

CERTIFICATION OF ERICA GIBSON

Defendants.

- 1. I am an Attorney in the General Law Division, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Health and Human Services (the "Department"). I am familiar with the official records of administrative tort claims maintained by the Department as well as with the system by which those records are maintained.
- 2. The Department has a Claims Office that maintains in a computerized database a record of administrative tort claims filed with the Department, including those filed with respect to federally supported health centers that have been deemed to be eligible for Federal Tort Claims Act malpractice coverage.

- 3. As a consequence, if an administrative tort claim had been filed with the Department with respect to Newark Community Health Centers, Inc., its approved delivery sites or its employees and/or qualified contractors, a record of that filing would be maintained in the Claims Office's database.
- 4. I have caused a search of the Claims Office's database to be conducted and found that, on December 23, 2020, the Department received an administrative tort claim filed by Amanda Richardson and Mossimmbo Roberts relating to medical care provided by employees of Newark Community Health Centers, Inc. On September 28, 2021, the Department issued a final determination denying Ms. Richardson and Mr. Roberts' administrative tort claim.
- 5. I have also reviewed official Agency records and determined that Newark Community Health Centers, Inc., was deemed eligible for Federal Tort Claims Act malpractice coverage for the calendar year effective January 1, 2019. The Secretary of Health and Human Services' authority to deem entities as Public Health Service employees under 42 U.S.C. § 233(g) has been delegated to the Associate Administrator, Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Services Administration. A copy of the notification by the Associate Administrator, Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, to Newark Community Health Centers, Inc. is attached to this declaration as Exhibit 1.
- 6. I have also reviewed the employment records submitted by Newark Community Health Centers, Inc., on behalf of Defendant Dr. Afamefune Onejeme,

M.D., and have determined that Dr. Onejeme was an employee of Newark Community Health Centers, Inc., at the time of the incidents giving rise to this suit.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. 28 U.S.C. § 1746.

Dated at Washington, D.C., this 22nd day of March, 2022.

3/22/2022

Signed by: PIV

ERICA GIBSON

Attorney, Claims and Employment Law Branch General Law Division

Office of the General Counsel

EXHIBIT 1

Case 2:22-cv-01755 Document 1 Filed 03/29/22 Page 31 of 38 PageID: 31

FTCA DEEMING NOTICE NO.: 1-F00000669-18-01

GRANT NUMBER:



NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. 741 BROADWAY NEWARK, NJ07104

Dear Pamela Clarke:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), in accordance with the Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act (FSHCAA), as amended, sections 224(g)-(n) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 233(g)-(n), deems NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. to be an employee of the PHS, for the purposes of section 224, effective 1/1/2019 through 12/31/2019.

Section 224(a) of the PHS Act provides liability protection under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA), 28 U.S.C. §§ 1346(b), 2672, or by alternative benefits provided by the United States where the availability of such benefits precludes a remedy under the FTCA, for damage for personal injury, including death, resulting from the performance of medical, surgical, dental, or related functions by PHS employees while acting within the scope of such employment. This protection is exclusive of any other civil action or proceeding. Coverage extends to deemed entities and their (1) officers; (2) governing board members; (3) full- and part-time employees; and (4) contractors who are licensed or certified individual health care practitioners providing full-time services (i.e., on average at least 32½ hours per week for the entity for the period of the contract), or, if providing an average of less than 32½ hours per week of such service, are licensed or certified providers in the fields of family practice, general internal medicine, general pediatrics, or obstetrics/gynecology. Volunteers are neither employees nor contractors and therefore are not eligible for FTCA coverage under FSHCAA.

This Notice of Deeming Action (NDA) is also confirmation of medical malpractice coverage for both NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC. and its covered individuals as described above. This NDA, along with documentation confirming employment or contractor status with the deemed entity, may be used to show liability coverage for damage for personal injury, including death, resulting from the performance of medical, surgical, dental, or related functions by PHS employees while acting within the scope of such employment.

In addition, FTCA coverage is comparable to an "occurrence" policy without a monetary cap. Therefore, any coverage limits that may be mandated by other organizations are met,

This action is based on the information provided in your FTCA deeming application, as required under 42 U.S.C. § 233(h), with regard to your entity's: (1) implementation of appropriate policies and procedures to reduce the risk of malpractice and litigation; (2) review and verification of professional credentials and privileges, references, claims history, fitness, professional review organization findings, and licensure status of health professionals; (3) cooperation with the Department of Justice (DOJ) in the defense of claims and actions to prevent claims in the future; and (4) cooperation with DOJ in providing information related to previous malpractice claims history.

Deemed health centers must continue to receive funding under Section 330 of the PHS Act, 42 U.S.C. § 254b, in order to maintain coverage as a deemed PHS employee. If the deemed entity loses its Section 330 funding, such coverage will end immediately upon termination of the grant. In addition to the relevant statutory and regulatory requirements, every deemed health center is expected to follow HRSA's FTCA-related policies and procedures, which may be found online at http://www.bphc.hrsa.gov.

For further information, please contact your HRSA Project Officer as listed on your Notice of Grant Award or the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) Help Line at 1-877-974-2742 or bphchelpline@hrsa.gov.

A printer version document only. The document may contain some accessibility challenges for the screen reader users. To access same information, a fully 508 compliant accessible HTML version is available on the HRSA Electronic Handbooks in the FTCA Folder. If you need more information, please contact the BPHC Helpline at 877-974-BPHC (2742); Weekdays from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM ET.

1. ISSUE DATE: (MM/DD/YYYY) 7/3/2018

2a. FTCA DEEMING NOTICE NO .:

1-F00000669-18-01

2b. Supersedes: []

3. COVERAGE PERIOD:

From: 1/1/2019 Through: 12/31/2019

4. NOTICE TYPE:

Renewal

5. ENTITY NAME AND ADDRESS:

NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC.

741 BROADWAY

NEWARK, NJ 07104

6. ENTITY TYPE:

Grantee

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Pamela Clarke

Ba. GRANTEE ORGANIZATION:

NEWARK COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, INC.

8b. GRANT NUMBER:

H80CS00062

- 9. THIS ACTION IS BASED ON THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO, AND AS APPROVED BY HRSA, AS REQUIRED UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 233(h) FOR THE ABOVE TITLED ENTITY AND IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCORPORATED EITHER DIRECTLY OR BY REFERENCE IN THE FOLLOWING:
- a. The authorizing program legislation cited above.
- b. The program regulation cited above, and,
- c. HRSA's FTCA-related policies and procedures,

In the event there are conflicting or otherwise inconsistent policies applicable to the program, the above order of precedence shall prevail.

10. Remarks:

The check box [X] in the supersedes field indicates that this notice supersedes any and all active NDAs and rescinds any and all future NDAs issued prior to this notice.

Electronically signed by Tonya Bowers, Deputy Associate Administrator for Primary Health Care on: 7/3/2018 2:51:47 PM

A printer version document only. The document may contain some accessibility challenges for the screen reader users. To access same information, a fully 508 compliant accessible HTML version is available on the HRSA Electronic Handbooks in the FTCA Folder, If you need more information, please contact the BPHC Helpline at 877-974-BPHC (2742); Weekdays from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM ET.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



NOTICE OF DEEMING ACTION FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT AUTHORIZATION:

Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act(FSHCAA), as amended, Sections 224(g)-(n) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, 42 U.S.C. § 233(g)-(n)

EXHIBIT D

PHILIP R. SELLINGER United States Attorney J. ANDREW RUYMANN Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Civil Division 402 East State Street, Room 430 Trenton, NJ 08608 Tel: (609) 989-0563

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

AMANDA RICHARDSON AND MOSSIMMBO ROBERTS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ANKITA LUTHRA, M.D. et al.,

Defendants.

CERTIFICATION OF SCOPE OF EMPLOYMENT

CIVIL ACTION NO.

I, J. Andrew Ruymann, Chief, Civil Division, United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey, acting pursuant to the provisions of 42 U.S. C. § 233(c) and by virtue of the authority vested in me by 28 C.F.R. § 15.4, certify that I have read the First Amended Complaint in this action, initially filed in New Jersey Superior Court, Essex County, at ESX-L-002798-21. On the basis of the information now available with respect to the allegations therein, I find that Defendants Afamefune Onejeme, M.D., and Newark Community Health Centers, Inc., were acting within the scope of their employment as deemed employees of the United States at the time of the conduct alleged in the First Amended Complaint.

Dated: March 21, 2022

PHILIP R. SELLINGER United States Attorney

s/ J. Andrew Ruymann

By:

J. ANDREW RUYMANN Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Civil Division

EXHIBIT E

Case 2:22-cv-01755 Document 1 Filed 03/29/22 Page 37 of 38 PageID: 37



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of New Jersey Civil Division

PHILIP R. SELLINGER UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Thandiwe Boylan Assistant United States Attorney 970 Broad Street, Suite 700 Newark, NJ 07102 thandiwe.boylan@usdoj.gov main: (973) 645-2700 direct: (973) 645-2724

March 29, 2022

Via E-filing

Superior Court of New Jersey Civil Division: Essex County 50 West Market Street Newark, NJ 07102

Re: Richardson et al., v. Luthra, et al.

Removed from the Superior Court of New Jersey,

Civil Division: Essex County, Dkt. No.: ESX-L-2798-21

To Whom It May Concern:

This Office represents Afamefune U. Onejeme, M.D. and Newark Community Health Centers, Inc., named defendants in the above-referenced action. Enclosed please find a copy of a Notice of Removal and a Civil Cover Sheet for the above-referenced case, which was removed on March 29, 2022 to the federal district court.

42 U.S.C. § 233(c) states that upon certification by the Attorney General that the defendants were acting within the scope of their employment at the time of the incident out of which the suit arose, any such civil action or proceeding commenced in a State court "shall be removed" to the federal district court. In addition, 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d) provides that upon filing of the Notice of Removal, the action is removed to the District Court. The statute directs that the State Court "shall proceed no further" with the action unless the action is remanded.

Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILP R. SELLINGER United States Attorney

By: <u>/s/ Thandiwe Boylan</u>

THANDIWE BOYLAN

Assistant United States Attorney

cc: William O. Crutchlow, Esq. (by electronic filing)